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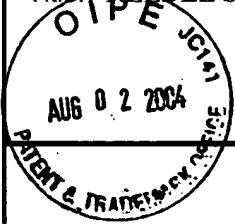
**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))**

Docket No.  
**8920ZYXAZ**

In Re Application Of: **David D. Demarest et al.**

Application No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Customer No.	Group Art Unit	Confirmation No.
10/644,665	August 20, 2003	Unassigned	23389	Unassigned	Unassigned

Title: **NEEDLE SORTING DEVICE**



Address to:  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**37 CFR 1.97(b)**

1. ☒ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

**37 CFR 1.97(c)**

2. ☐ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:

☐ the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);

**OR**

☐ the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

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**NEEDLE SORTING DEVICE**

**Payment of Fee**

(Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p))

- ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. **19-1013/SSMP** as described below.
- ☐ Charge the amount of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ Credit any overpayment.
- ☒ Charge any additional fee required.

**Certificate of Transmission by Facsimile\***

I certify that this document and authorization to charge deposit account is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No. \_\_\_\_\_)

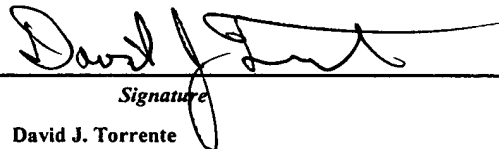
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

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Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

**Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail**

I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on **July 30, 2004** with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
Signature

**David J. Torrente**  
Typed or Printed Name

\*This certificate may only be used if paying by deposit account.

  
Signature

Dated: **July 30, 2004**

**David J. Torrente**  
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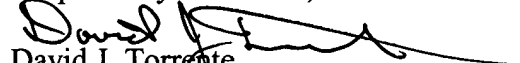
CC:

The references were cited in an Office Action dated April 30, 2004 received from the Japanese Patent Office. Applicants are submitting copies of the above-cited references, together with an English translation of the Examiner's comments regarding the references from the Official Action. The relevance of the references is described in the Official Action.

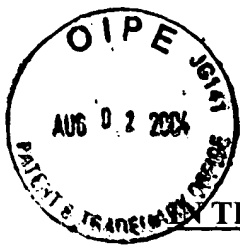
In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of portions of an official action by a foreign examiner in which the references were cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the references were cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the references, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), no petition, certification or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant(s):** David D. Demarest, et al.

**Examiner:** Unassigned

**Serial No:** 10/644,665

**Art Unit:** Unassigned

**Filed:** August 20, 2003

**Docket:** 8920ZYXAZ (ETH-1437CON)

**For:** NEEDLE SORTING DEVICE

**Dated:** July 30, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Japanese Patent No. 61-235315, dated October 20, 1986; and
2. Japanese Patent No. 5-238557, dated September 17, 1993.

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 30, 2004.

Dated: July 30, 2004

  
David J. Torrente

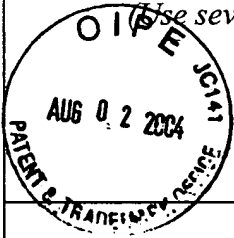
Form PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
(REV. 7-80) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION****Atty. Docket No. (Optional)**

8920ZYXAZ (ETH-1437CON)

**Application Number**

10/644,665

*(Use several sheets if necessary)***Applicant(s)**

David D. Demarest, et al.

**Filing Date**

August 20, 2003

**Group Art Unit**

Unassigned

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL*	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (if appropriate)

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	1.	61-235315	10/20/1986	Japan				
	2.	5-238557	9/17/1993	Japan				

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*


**EXAMINER****DATE CONSIDERED**

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.